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Sixty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 53 (a)
Eradication of poverty and other development issues: implementation of the second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

Role of microcredit and microfinance in the eradication of poverty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/193 and 52/194 of 18 December 1997, 53/197 of 15 December 1998, 58/221 of 23 December 2003, 59/246 of 22 December 2004 and 61/214 of 20 December 2006,

Recognizing the need for access to financial services, in particular for the poor, including access to microfinance and microcredit,

Recognizing also that microfinance, including microcredit programmes, has succeeded in generating productive self-employment and proved to be an effective tool in assisting people in overcoming poverty and reducing their vulnerability to crisis, and has led to their growing participation, in particular the participation of women, in the mainstream economic and political processes of society,

Recognizing further that the majority of the world's poor still do not have access to financial services and that microcredit and microfinance are the subject of significant demand worldwide,

Bearing in mind the importance of providing access to microfinance instruments, such as credit, savings and other financial products and services, for people living in poverty,

Bearing in mind also that microcredit programmes have benefited women and have resulted in the achievement of their empowerment,

Noting with appreciation the establishment of the United Nations Advisers Group on Inclusive Financial Sectors to promote the building of inclusive financial

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

08-57645 (E) 301008

sectors to meet the needs and demands of poor people everywhere, building on the creation of the "Blue Book"[1] as a tool for policymakers seeking to build more inclusive financial sectors,

Noting events organized for the promotion of inclusive financial sectors, including the convening of the Global Microcredit Summit in Halifax, Canada, from 12 to 15 November 2006,

Welcoming the efforts made in the field of property rights, and noting that an enabling environment at all levels, including transparent regulatory systems and competitive markets, fosters the mobilization of resources and access to finance for people living in poverty,

Noting with appreciation the contribution of awards and prizes to increasing the visibility and awareness of the role of microfinance, including microcredit, in the eradication of poverty, most notably the awarding of the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the role of microcredit and microfinance in the eradication of poverty;[2]

2. *Welcomes* the successful observance of the International Year of Microcredit, 2005, which constituted a special occasion to raise awareness and share best practices and lessons learned on microcredit and microfinance;

3. *Recognizes* that access to microfinance and microcredit can contribute to the achievement of the goals and targets of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] in particular the goals relating to poverty eradication, gender equality and the empowerment of women;

4. *Underlines* the need for greater access to microcredit and microfinance for small farmers in developing countries, which can contribute to increased agricultural productivity;

5. *Recognizes* that microfinance has experienced tremendous growth in the number of people served and the diversity of financial services offered, and that, along with the growth in numbers served and products and services offered, there has also been a large increase in the number of microfinance providers, including in the public sector, all of which share the common characteristic of providing financial services to poor and socio-economically vulnerable people who would not normally be served by traditional financial institutions;

6. *Notes* the lack of relevant statistical data on inclusive financial sectors, in particular microfinance and microcredit programmes, in particular at the national and regional levels, and in this regard invites the international community, in particular the donor community, to support developing countries in collecting and preserving necessary statistical data and information on this issue, specifically on defining and measuring access to financial services and products at the country level and measuring the type, quality and usage of such services and products over time;

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[1] *Building Inclusive Financial Sectors for Development* (United Nations publications, Sales No. E.06.II.A.3).

[2] A/63/159.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

7. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders to fully maximize the role of microfinance tools, including microcredit for poverty eradication and especially for the empowerment of women, and to ensure that best practices in the microfinance sector are widely disseminated;

8. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system, the Bretton Woods institutions and other relevant stakeholders to support, in a coordinated manner, the efforts of developing countries in capacity-building for microfinance and microcredit institutions to expand their products and services, including by improving their policy and regulatory framework;

9. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting policies to facilitate the expansion of microcredit and microfinance institutions in order to service the large unmet demand among poor people for financial services, including the identification and development of mechanisms to promote access to sustainable financial services, the removal of institutional and regulatory obstacles and the provision of incentives to microfinance institutions that meet national standards for delivering such financial services to the poor;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues".

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Agenda item 49 (b)
Sustainable development: follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Barbados[1] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States ("Barbados Programme of Action"),[2] adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference,

Reaffirming also the Mauritius Declaration[3] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States ("Mauritius Strategy for Implementation"),[4] adopted by the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on 14 January 2005,

* On behalf of the Member States of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[4] Ibid., annex II.

08-57675 (E) 301008

Recalling its resolutions 59/311 of 14 July 2005, 60/194 of 22 December 2005, 61/196 of 20 December 2006 and 62/191 of 19 December 2007,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[5]

Reaffirming that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the primary intergovernmental forum for monitoring the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

Recalling the decision taken by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its sixteenth session[6] that one day be devoted exclusively to the review of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

Recalling also that one half-day of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the fifteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/196, was devoted to a discussion of policy options for addressing the barriers and constraints facing small island developing States in the four thematic areas of the session, taking into account the review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation conducted during the fourteenth session of the Commission,

Reaffirming that the adverse effects of climate change and sea-level rise present significant risks to the sustainable development of small island developing States, that the effects of climate change may threaten the very existence of some of them and that adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change and sea-level rise therefore remains a major priority for small island developing States,

Recognizing the urgent need to increase the level of resources provided to small island developing States for the effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

Underscoring the importance of developing and strengthening national sustainable development strategies in small island developing States,

Recalling its request that the Secretary-General submit a report on actions taken to strengthen the Small Island Developing States Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat,

Recalling also the decision to review progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation at the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[7] on the follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

2. *Also takes note* of the actions taken by the Secretary-General to strengthen the Small Island Developing States Unit;[8]

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[5] See resolution 60/1.

[6] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2008, Supplement No. 9* (E/2008/29), chap. I, sect. B, decision 16/2.

[7] A/63/296.

[8] See A/62/945.

3. *Welcomes* the renewed commitment of the international community to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[2]

4. *Urges* Governments and all relevant international and regional organizations, United Nations funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, international financial institutions and the Global Environment Facility, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and major groups, to take timely action for the effective implementation of and follow-up to the Mauritius Declaration[3] and the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,[4] including the further development and operationalization of concrete projects and programmes;

5. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and targets adopted at the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and, to this end, for the fulfilment of the provisions for the means of implementation, as contained in the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, and encourages small island developing States and their development partners to continue to consult widely in order to develop further concrete projects and programmes for the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

6. *Reaffirms* the decision taken by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its sixteenth session[6] that one day during its review sessions be devoted exclusively to the review of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

7. *Invites* the Commission on Sustainable Development to devote one half-day of its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting to a discussion of policy options for addressing the barriers and constraints facing small island developing States identified during the thematic cluster of each cycle of the session;

8. *Encourages* better and early consultation with small island developing States in the planning and coordination, as appropriate, of the activities of the Commission on Sustainable Development devoted to the review of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, and emphasizes the importance of enhanced interaction among small island developing States and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system addressing issues concerning small island developing States;

9. *Calls upon* the international community to enhance support for the efforts of small island developing States to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, including through the provision of dedicated sources of financing, capacity-building and the transfer of appropriate technologies to address climate change;

10. *Requests* the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to intensify efforts aimed at mainstreaming the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation in their work programmes and to establish a focal point for matters related to small island developing States within their respective secretariats to support coordinated implementation of the programme of action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to enhance its support for the implementation of the programme of work on island biodiversity[9] as a set of actions

[9] UNEP/CBD/COP/8/31, annex I, decision VIII/1, annex.

to address characteristics and problems that are specific to islands, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its eighth meeting, in 2006;

12. *Calls for* continued support for the design and implementation of national sustainable development strategies in all small island developing States;

13. *Encourages* the implementation of partnership initiatives, within the framework of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, in support of the sustainable development of small island developing States;

14. *Underlines* the importance of providing the Small Island Developing States Unit with sufficient, stable and predictable funding to facilitate the full and effective implementation of its mandates in accordance with the high priority accorded to the Unit and in view of the increasing demand for its service, in particular with respect to the provision of assistance and support to small island developing States;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen the Small Island Developing States Unit, as called for in its resolutions 57/262 of 20 December 2002, 58/213 A of 23 December 2003, 59/229 of 22 December 2004, 59/311, 60/194, 61/196 and 62/191, to ensure that the Unit is sufficiently and sustainably staffed without delay so that it may undertake its broad range of mandated functions, with a view to facilitating the full and effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

16. *Calls for* the provision of new, predictable resources as well as increased voluntary resources for the revitalization of the Small Island Developing States Information Network;

17. *Reaffirms* its decision to review the progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation at its sixty-fifth session, and decides to convene a two-day high-level review meeting in September 2010;

18. *Requests* the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, to organize, facilitate or support efforts at the national, regional and international levels to review the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation and to assess progress made towards addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States;

19. *Invites* the small island developing States to consider at their relevant intergovernmental meetings assessments and relevant contributions to the review process;

20. *Requests* the international community to support the efforts to review progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy of Implementation, including, inter alia, by facilitating the participation of small island developing States in review activities;

21. *Also requests* that a decision be taken on the modalities for the review;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States".

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Agenda item 49 (b)

Sustainable development: follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados,[2] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5] as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments,

Recalling the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,[6]

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] See resolution S-22/2, annex.

08-57681 (E) 301008

Taking into account all other relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999, 55/203 of 20 December 2000, 57/261 of 20 December 2002, 59/230 of 22 December 2004 and 61/197 of 20 December 2006,

Taking into account also the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[7] and in particular paragraph 21,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[8]

Recalling also the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, signed at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 24 March 1983,[9] and its protocols, which contain the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part,

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea[10] and other relevant instruments,

Emphasizing the importance of national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector as recognized by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[11]

Recalling the relevant work done by the International Maritime Organization,

Considering that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island developing States that are ecologically fragile, structurally weak and economically vulnerable and are also affected, inter alia, by their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, high levels of poverty and the resulting social problems and the challenges and opportunities of globalization and trade liberalization,

Recognizing that the Caribbean Sea has a unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystem,

Recognizing also that the Caribbean is special because it is the most tourist dependent region in the world relative to its size,

Noting that the Caribbean Sea is also special when compared to all other large marine ecosystems in that it has the largest number of countries surrounding it in the world,

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[7] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[8] See resolution 60/1.

[9] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1506, No. 25974.

[10] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

[11] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

Emphasizing that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change, climate variability and associated phenomena, such as the rise in sea level, the El Niño phenomenon and the increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts, and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes,

Bearing in mind the heavy reliance of most of the Caribbean economies on their coastal areas, as well as on the marine environment in general, to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals,

Acknowledging that the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea for maritime transport, as well as the considerable number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national jurisdiction where Caribbean countries exercise their rights and duties under international law, present a challenge for the effective management of the resources,

Noting the problem of marine pollution caused, inter alia, by land-based sources and the continuing threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and sewage, as well as from the accidental release of hazardous and noxious substances in the Caribbean Sea area,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on safety of transport of radioactive materials,

Mindful of the diversity and dynamic interaction and competition among socio-economic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources,

Mindful also of the efforts of the Caribbean countries to address in a more holistic manner the sectoral issues relating to the management of the Caribbean Sea area and, in so doing, to promote an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development, through a regional cooperative effort among Caribbean countries,

Welcoming the continued efforts of the States members of the Association of Caribbean States to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, and noting in this regard the commitment by Heads of State and Government of the Association of Caribbean States to further develop their concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area within the context of sustainable development,

Welcoming also, in that regard, the creation by the Association of Caribbean States of the Commission on the Caribbean Sea,

Cognizant of the importance of the Caribbean Sea to present and future generations and to the heritage and the continuing economic well-being and sustenance of people living in the area, and the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community,

1. *Decides* to recognize the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development;

2. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Caribbean States and the work undertaken by the Commission on the Caribbean Sea of the Association of Caribbean States, and invites the international community to recognize such efforts;

3. *Welcomes also* the Plan of Action adopted by the Commission on the Caribbean Sea, including its scientific and technical components, and governance and outreach components, and invites the international community and the United Nations system to fully support the implementation of the Plan of Action through the provision of financial and technical resources and capacity-building;

4. *Recognizes* the efforts of Caribbean countries to create conditions leading to sustainable development aimed at combating poverty and inequality, and in this regard notes with interest the initiatives of the Association of Caribbean States in the focal areas of sustainable tourism, trade, transport and natural disasters;

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to assist, as appropriate, Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, and from illegal dumping or accidental release of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, in violation of relevant international rules and standards, as well as pollution from land-based activities;

6. *Invites* the Association to submit a report on its progress in the implementation of the present resolution to the Secretary-General for consideration during the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly;

7. *Calls upon* all States to become contracting parties to relevant international agreements to enhance maritime safety and promote the protection of the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from pollution, damage and degradation from ships and ship-generated waste;

8. *Supports* the efforts of Caribbean countries to implement sustainable fisheries management programmes;

9. *Calls upon* States, taking into consideration the Convention on Biological Diversity,[12] to develop national, regional and international programmes to halt the loss of marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Sea, in particular fragile ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangroves;

10. *Invites* Member States and intergovernmental organizations within the United Nations system to continue their efforts to assist Caribbean countries in becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols concerning the management, protection and sustainable utilization of Caribbean Sea resources and in implementing them effectively;

11. *Calls upon* the international community, the United Nations system and the multilateral financial institutions, and invites the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to support actively the national and regional activities of the Caribbean States towards the promotion of the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources;

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[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

12. *Urges* the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide aid and assistance to the countries of the Caribbean region in the implementation of their long-term programmes of disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, management, relief and recovery, based on their development priorities, through the integration of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction into a comprehensive approach to sustainable development;

13. *Acknowledges* the pivotal role of the Association of Caribbean States in regional dialogue and in the consolidation of a wider Caribbean cooperation zone in the field of disaster risk reduction, as well as the importance of the international community in deepening existing cooperation and consolidating new initiatives with that regional mechanism within the context of the outcomes of the Association of Caribbean States High-level Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Saint-Marc, Haiti, in November 2007, and the Plan of Action approved by the Ministerial Council of the Association upon the recommendation of the Conference;

14. *Calls upon* Member States to elaborate training programmes for the development of a human resources capacity at different levels and to develop research aimed at enhancing the food security of Caribbean countries, as well as the sustainable management of renewable marine and coastal resources;

15. *Calls upon* Member States to improve as a matter of priority their emergency response capabilities and the containment of environmental damage, particularly in the Caribbean Sea, in the event of natural disasters or of an accident or incident relating to maritime navigation;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its sixty-fifth session, under the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" of the item entitled "Sustainable development", on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account the views expressed by relevant regional organizations.

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Agenda item 49 (c)
Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/220 of 22 December 1999, 55/197 of 20 December 2000, 56/194 of 21 December 2001, 57/255 of 20 December 2002, 59/232 of 22 December 2004 and 61/199 of 20 December 2006, and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000,

Noting that the El Niño phenomenon has a recurring character and that it can lead to extensive natural hazards with the potential to seriously affect humankind,

Reaffirming the importance of developing strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the damage caused by natural disasters that result from the El Niño phenomenon,

Noting that technological developments and international cooperation have enhanced the capabilities for the prediction of the El Niño phenomenon and thereby the potential for the preventive actions that may be taken to reduce its negative impacts,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[1] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China

[1] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

08-58005 (E) 311008

Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[2] in particular paragraph 37 (i) thereof,

Reaffirming the Hyogo Declaration[3] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[4]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction,[5] in particular annex II of the report, entitled "International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon", and calls upon the international community to make greater efforts to assist countries affected by this phenomenon;

2. *Recognizes* the ongoing efforts made by the Government of Ecuador, the World Meteorological Organization and the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction which have led to the establishment of the International Centre for the Study of the El Niño Phenomenon at Guayaquil, Ecuador, and encourages them to continue their support for the advancement of the Centre;

3. *Also recognizes* the technical and scientific support of the World Meteorological Organization to produce regionally coordinated monthly seasonal forecasts;

4. *Encourages*, in this regard, the World Meteorological Organization to strengthen the exchange of information with the relevant institutions;

5. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken so far to strengthen the International Centre for the Study of the El Niño Phenomenon, through collaboration with international monitoring centres, including the national oceanographic institutions, and efforts to enhance regional and international recognition and support for the Centre and to develop tools for decision-makers and Government authorities to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon;

6. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the relevant United Nations organs, funds and programmes, in particular those taking part in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and the international community to adopt, as appropriate, the necessary measures to strengthen the International Centre for the Study of the El Niño Phenomenon, and invites the international community to provide scientific, technical and financial assistance and cooperation for this purpose, as well as to strengthen, as appropriate, other centres devoted to the study of the El Niño phenomenon;

7. *Underscores* the importance of maintaining the El Niño/Southern Oscillation observation system, continuing research into extreme weather events, improving forecasting skills and developing appropriate policies for reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon and other extreme weather events, and emphasizes the need to further develop and strengthen these institutional capacities in all countries, in particular in developing countries;

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[2] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[3] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

[4] Ibid., resolution 2.

[5] A/63/351.

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include a section on the implementation of the present resolution in his report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

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Agenda item 49 (d)
Sustainable development: protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988 and 54/222 of 22 December 1999, its decision 55/443 of 20 December 2000 and its resolutions 56/199 of 21 December 2001, 57/257 of 20 December 2002, 58/243 of 23 December 2003, 59/234 of 22 December 2004, 60/197 of 22 December 2005, 61/201 of 20 December 2006 and 62/86 of 10 December 2007 and other resolutions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of mankind,

Recalling also the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[1] including the acknowledgement that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities and their social and economic conditions,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2] in which Heads of State and Government resolved to make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol and to embark on the required reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases,[3]

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[2] See resolution 55/2.

[3] Ibid., para. 23.

08-57687 (E) 301008

Recalling the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[4] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5] the Delhi Ministerial Declaration on Climate Change and Sustainable Development, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its eighth session, held in New Delhi from 23 October to 1 November 2002,[6] the outcome of the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties, held in Milan, Italy, from 1 to 12 December 2003,[7] the outcome of the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties, held in Buenos Aires from 6 to 18 December 2004,[8] the outcome of the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties and the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Montreal, Canada, from 28 November to 10 December 2005,[9] the outcome of the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties and the second session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Nairobi from 6 to 17 November 2006,[10] and the outcome of the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties and the third session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 3 to 15 December 2007,[11]

Reaffirming the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[12] the Mauritius Declaration[13] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[14]

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[15]

Remaining deeply concerned that all countries, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, face increased risks from the negative effects of climate change, and stressing the need to address adaptation needs relating to such effects,

Noting that, to date, there are one hundred and ninety-two parties to the Convention, including one hundred and ninety-one States and one regional economic integration organization,

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[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] FCCC/CP/2002/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.8.

[7] FCCC/CP/2003/6/Add.1 and 2.

[8] FCCC/CP/2004/10/Add.1 and 2.

[9] FCCC/CP/2005/5/Add.1.

[10] FCCC/CP/2006/5 and Add.1.

[11] FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1 and 2.

[12] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[13] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[14] Ibid., annex II.

[15] See resolution 60/1.

Noting also that, currently, the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[16] has attracted one hundred and eighty-two ratifications, accessions, acceptances or approvals, including by thirty-nine parties included in annex I to the Convention,

Noting further the amendment to annex B to the Kyoto Protocol,[17]

Noting the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the need to build and enhance scientific and technological capabilities, inter alia, through continuing support to the Panel for the exchange of scientific data and information, especially in developing countries,

Noting also the significance of the scientific findings of the fourth assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which contribute positively to the discussions under the Convention and the understanding of the phenomenon of climate change, including its impacts and risks,

Noting with appreciation the initiative of the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-first session, in having convened the informal thematic debate on "Climate change as a global challenge" from 31 July to 2 August 2007,

Noting also with appreciation the initiative of the Secretary-General in having convened the informal high-level event entitled "The future in our hands: addressing the leadership challenge of climate change" on 24 September 2007, aimed at providing impetus and political support to the Convention and raising awareness of the global challenge of climate change,

Reaffirming its commitment to the ultimate objective of the Convention, namely, to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that prevents dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system,

Taking note of the note by the Secretary-General[18] transmitting the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[19]

1. *Stresses* the seriousness of climate change, and calls upon States to work cooperatively towards achieving the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[1] through the implementation of its provisions;

2. *Notes* that States that have ratified the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[16] welcome the entry into force of the Protocol on 16 February 2005 and strongly urge States that have not yet done so to ratify it in a timely manner;

3. *Takes note* of the outcome of the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention and the third session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, hosted by the Government of Indonesia from 3 to 15 December 2007;[11]

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[16] FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3, annex.

[17] FCCC/KP/CMP/2006/10/Add.1, decision 10/CMP.2.

[18] A/62/276.

[19] Ibid., annex I.

4. *Welcomes* the decisions adopted during the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention, and calls for urgent global action to address climate change in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities;

5. *Urges* developed countries to undertake ambitious and enhanced commitments under the Kyoto Protocol in subsequent commitment periods, and also urges the international community to assist developing countries in addressing the consequences of climate change, in particular through new, additional and predictable financial resources, capacity-building and access to and transfer of technology;

6. *Welcomes* the launch of the Adaptation Fund during the third session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol aimed at addressing the needs of developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and looks forward to its early operationalization;

7. *Recognizes* that climate change poses serious risks and challenges to all countries, particularly to developing countries, especially the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and countries in Africa, including those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and calls upon States to take urgent global action to address climate change in accordance with the principles identified in the Framework Convention, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, and, in this regard, urges all countries to fully implement their commitments under the Convention, to take effective and concrete actions and measures at all levels, and to enhance international cooperation in the framework of the Convention;

8. *Also recognizes* the need to provide financial and technical resources, as well as capacity-building and access to and transfer of technology, to assist those developing countries adversely affected by climate change;

9. *Welcomes* the holding, in Beijing on 7 and 8 November 2008, of the High-level Conference on Climate Change: Technology Development and Technology Transfer;

10. *Reaffirms* that efforts to address climate change in a manner that enhances the sustainable development and sustained economic growth of the developing countries and the eradication of poverty should be carried out through promoting the integration of the three components of sustainable development, namely, economic development, social development and environmental protection, as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars, in an integrated, coordinated and balanced manner;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to fulfil the commitments made during the fourth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund;

12. *Notes* the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the Framework Convention, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing

Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[20] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[21] and encourages cooperation to promote complementarities among the three secretariats while respecting their independent legal status;

13. *Invites* the conferences of the parties to the multilateral environmental conventions, when setting the dates of their meetings, to take into consideration the schedule of meetings of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development so as to ensure the adequate representation of developing countries at those meetings;

14. *Invites* the secretariat of the Framework Convention to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the work of the Conference of the Parties;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind".

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[20] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[21] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

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Agenda item 49 (e)

Sustainable development: implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/211 of 23 December 2003, 61/202 of 20 December 2006, 62/193 of 19 December 2007 and other resolutions relating to the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[1]

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2]

Reasserting its commitment to combating and reversing desertification and drought/land degradation, eradicating extreme poverty, promoting sustainable development in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas and improving the livelihoods of people affected by drought and/or desertification,

Determined to build upon the momentum and to boost the spirit of international solidarity generated by the designation of 2006 as the International Year of Deserts and Desertification, and welcoming the adoption of the ten-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008-2018),

* On behalf of the Member States of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

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Reaffirming the universal membership of the Convention, and acknowledging that desertification and drought are problems of a global dimension in that they affect all regions in the world,

Emphasizing that desertification and drought/land degradation seriously threaten the ability of developing countries to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and recognizing that the timely and effective implementation of the Convention would help to achieve these goals,

Concerned about the negative impacts desertification, land degradation, loss of biological diversity and climate change have on each other, while emphasizing the potential benefits of complementarities in addressing these problems in a mutually supportive manner,

Reaffirming the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[3] which recognizes the Convention as one of the tools for poverty eradication,

Recognizing the need to provide the secretariat of the Convention with stable, adequate and predictable resources in order to enable it to continue to discharge its responsibilities in an efficient and timely manner,

Welcoming the decision of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eleventh session to consider, inter alia, the issue of desertification and drought during its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions,[4]

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Germany for hosting the High-level Policy Dialogue in Bonn on 27 May 2008,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[5]

2. *Reaffirms its resolve* to support and strengthen the implementation of the Convention[1] with a view to addressing causes of desertification and land degradation, as well as poverty resulting from land degradation, through, inter alia, the mobilization of adequate and predictable financial resources, the transfer of technology and capacity-building at all levels;

3. *Also reaffirms* its decision to declare the decade 2010-2020 as the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification;

4. *Notes* the efforts of the Executive Secretary of the Convention to continue the administrative renewal and reform of the secretariat and realign its functions in order to fully implement the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit and bring them into line with the ten-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention;

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[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[4] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I.

[5] A/62/276, annex II.

5. *Notes* the request made for an assessment of the Global Mechanism by the Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations, and looks forward to its findings,[6] which are to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session;

6. *Reiterates its call upon* Governments, where appropriate, in collaboration with relevant multilateral organizations, including the Global Environment Facility implementation agencies, to integrate desertification into their plans and strategies for sustainable development;

7. *Notes* the ongoing work of the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[7] the Convention on Biological Diversity[8] and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and encourages continuing cooperation in order to promote complementarities in the work of the secretariats, while respecting their independent legal status;

8. *Recognizes* the potential of the Convention to contribute to addressing the global food crisis, including by protecting land from becoming degraded, in arid, semi-arid and sub-humid areas in order to offer new economic opportunities for impoverished populations living in those areas;

9. *Invites* developed countries that are parties to the Convention and other Governments, multilateral organizations, the private sector and other relevant organizations to make resources available to affected developing countries for the implementation of the ten-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention;

10. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention, in coordination with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, to actively prepare for and participate in the seventeenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development with a view to ensuring that the Convention core issues, in particular those relating to land degradation, drought and desertification, are duly considered in the context of sustainable development during the deliberations of the policy session, with a view to ensuring a successful outcome from the entire cycle of the Commission;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to lend full support to the implementation of the ten-year strategy and to prioritize investment in initiatives to prevent desertification/land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought, taking into account national circumstances and priorities;

12. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to consider substantially increasing resource allocation to its land degradation focal area during the next replenishment;

13. *Recognizes* the cross-sectoral nature of desertification/land degradation, and in this regard invites all relevant United Nations agencies to cooperate under the aegis of the Convention to support an effective response to land degradation, led by

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[6] A/C.2/62/7, annex, sect. F, para. 27.

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[8] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

the vision and objectives of the strategy adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session;[9]

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination to extend a standing invitation to the Executive Secretary of the Convention to participate in its sessions when issues relating to sustainable development are discussed;

15. *Invites* the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, when setting the dates of its meetings, to take into consideration the schedule of meetings of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development so as to help ensure the adequate representation of developing countries at those meetings;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa";

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including a report on the implementation of the Convention, to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session.

[9] A/C.2/62/7, annex.

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Agenda item 49 (f)
Sustainable development: Convention on Biological Diversity

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/201 of 20 December 2000, 56/197 of 21 December 2001, 57/253 and 57/260 of 20 December 2002, 58/212 of 23 December 2003, 59/236 of 22 December 2004, 60/202 of 22 December 2005, 61/204 of 20 December 2006 and 62/194 of 19 December 2007,

Recalling also its resolution 61/203 of 20 December 2006 on the International Year of Biodiversity, 2010,

Reiterating that the Convention on Biological Diversity[1] is the key international instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources,

Noting that one hundred and ninety States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the Convention and that one hundred and forty-nine States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[2]

Recalling the commitments of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to pursue a more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity, which will require action at all levels, including the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[2] Ibid., vol. 2226, No. 30619.

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Concerned by the continued loss of biological diversity, and acknowledging that an unprecedented effort is needed to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction in the rate of loss of biological diversity,

Noting the need for enhanced cooperation among the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[3] and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[4] (the "Rio Conventions"), while respecting their individual mandates, concerned by the negative impacts that loss of biodiversity, desertification, land degradation and climate change have on each other, and recognizing the potential benefits of complementarities in addressing these problems in a mutually supportive manner with a view to achieving the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Acknowledging the contribution that the ongoing work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, of the World Intellectual Property Organization, can make in enhancing the effective implementation of the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Noting the contribution that South-South cooperation can make in the area of biological diversity,

Expressing deep appreciation to the Government of Germany for hosting the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the fourth meeting of the Conference serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and welcoming the offer of the Government of Japan to host in 2010 the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the fifth meeting of the Conference serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol;

Taking note of the reports of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment,[5]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[6]

2. *Urges* developed countries parties to the Convention[1] to contribute to the relevant trust funds of the Convention, in particular so as to enhance the full participation of the developing countries parties in all of its activities;

3. *Urges* all Member States to fulfil their commitments to significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010, and emphasizes that this will require an appropriate focus on the loss of biodiversity in their relevant policies and programmes and the continued provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries, including through the Global Environment Facility;

4. *Takes note* of the outcomes of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the fourth meeting of the

[3] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.
[4] Ibid., vol. 1771, No. 30822.
[5] Available from http://millenniumassessment.org.
[6] A/63/294, annex III.

Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

5. *Urges* parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to facilitate the transfer of technology for the effective implementation of the Convention in accordance with its provisions and, in this regard, takes note of the strategy for the practical implementation of the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation developed by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Scientific and Technological Cooperation, as a preliminary basis for concrete activities by parties and international organizations;

6. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting of a strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention, and invites Parties to the Convention to adopt measurable targets and indicators for the implementation of the strategy, addressing all relevant funding sources, according to national priorities and capacities and taking into account the special situation and needs of developing countries;

7. *Welcomes* the decision by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting to instruct the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing to finalize the elaboration and negotiation of the international regime on access and benefit-sharing and to submit it for consideration and adoption by the Conference at its tenth meeting, in accordance with Conference decisions VII/19 D and VIII/4 A, and welcomes also the establishment of a road map for the negotiations contained in that decision;

8. *Reaffirms* the commitment, subject to national legislation, to respect, preserve and maintain the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their utilization;

9. *Invites* parties to the Convention, other Member States, relevant international organizations and other relevant stakeholders to make preparations to celebrate in 2010 the International Year of Biodiversity, welcomes decision IX/33 of the Conference of the Parties, and in that regard, inter alia:

(a) Invites all Member States to observe the International Year of Biodiversity and establish, as soon as possible, national committees to that end;

(b) Invites the Secretary-General to consider appointing before 2010 an honorary ambassador for the International Year of Biodiversity, who would have a mandate to call for practical actions and solutions towards meeting the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(c) Decides, as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity, to convene at its sixty-fifth session, in 2010, a one-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly, with participation of Heads of State, Governments and delegations;

(d) Calls on United Nations departments, funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions to fully support and participate in the activities

being envisaged for the observance of 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity, under the auspices of the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing efforts of the Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the Convention to promote South-South cooperation on biodiversity and development;

11. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention of decision IX/25 on South-South cooperation for development which, inter alia, encourages developing country parties to engage in South-South cooperation on the issue of biodiversity, complemented and supported by North-South cooperation, and to incorporate biodiversity concerns in regional and subregional cooperation agreements and associated activities;

12. *Takes note* of the development by the Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the Convention of the Gender Plan of Action,

13. *Takes note* of the ongoing work of the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[4] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[3] and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and further encourages continuing cooperation in order to promote complementarities among the secretariats, while respecting their independent legal status;

14. *Invites* the countries that have not yet done so to ratify or to accede to the Convention;

15. *Invites* countries to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;[7]

16. *Invites* the parties to the Convention that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to consider doing so, reiterates the commitment of States parties to the Protocol to support its implementation, and stresses that this will require the full support of parties and of relevant international organizations, in particular with regard to the provision of assistance to developing countries in capacity-building for biosafety;

17. *Invites* the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the work of the Conference of the Parties and to include in that report information on the preparations of the high-level meeting referred to above;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

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[7] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Conference of FAO, Thirty-first Session, Rome, 2-13 November 2001* (C 2001/REP), appendix D.

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Agenda item 49 (g)
Sustainable development: Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its tenth special session

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its tenth special session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 53/242 of 28 July 1999, 56/193 of 21 December 2001, 57/251 of 20 December 2002, 58/209 of 23 December 2003, 59/226 of 22 December 2004, 60/189 of 22 December 2005, 61/205 of 20 December 2006 and 62/195 of 19 December 2007,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1]

Recognizing the need for more efficient environmental activities in the United Nations system, and noting the need to consider possible options to address this need,

Taking into account Agenda 21[2] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[3]

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the principal body within the United Nations system in the field of environment, which should take into account, within its mandate, the sustainable development needs of developing countries,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution 60/1.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

08-57693 (E) 301008

Emphasizing that capacity-building and technology support to developing countries in environment-related fields are important components of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recognizing the need to accelerate implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,[4] including through the provision of additional financial resources for that purpose,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its tenth special session[5] and the decisions contained therein;[6]

2. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the United Nations Environment Programme in shifting emphasis from delivery of outputs to achievement of results within its budget and programme of work, and also welcomes, in this regard, the results-based medium-term strategy for the period 2010-2013[7] for use in formulating the strategic frameworks, programmes of work and budgets for the periods 2010-2011 and 2012-2013;

3. *Stresses* the need to further advance and fully implement the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,[4] in this regard calls upon Governments and other stakeholders in a position to do so to provide the necessary funding and technical assistance, and also calls upon the United Nations Environment Programme to continue its efforts to fully implement the Bali Strategic Plan through strengthened cooperation with other stakeholders, based on their comparative advantages;

4. *Emphasizes* the need for the United Nations Environment Programme, within its mandate, to further contribute to sustainable development programmes, the implementation of Agenda 21[2] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[3] at all levels, and to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, bearing in mind the mandate of the Commission;

5. *Recognizes* that the current global food, energy and financial crises as well as climate change would adversely impact sustainable development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and emphasizes the need for mobilization of new and additional resources to address, inter alia, these challenges;

6. *Emphasizes* the need to further enhance coordination and cooperation among the relevant United Nations organizations in the promotion of the environmental dimension of sustainable development, and welcomes the continued active participation of the United Nations Environment Programme in the United Nations Development Group and the Environment Management Group;

7. *Notes* the findings of the fourth *Global Environment Outlook: Environment for Development*[8], published by the United Nations Environment Programme, that current environmental degradation represents a serious challenge for human well-being and sustainable development;

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[4] UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/63/25).

[6] Ibid., annex I.

[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/62/25).

[8] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.III.D.19.

8. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme, as recommended by the intergovernmental consultation on strengthening the scientific base of the Programme, including the reinforcement of the scientific capacity of developing countries, in the area of protection of the environment, including through the provision of adequate financial resources, and in this regard emphasizes the importance of building on the experiences gained from the preparation of different global environmental assessments as well as other relevant developments in this field;

9. *Reiterates* the need for stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for ~~the~~ United Nations Environment Programme, and, in accordance with Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), underlines the need to consider the adequate reflection of all administrative and management costs of the Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget;

10. *Invites* Governments that are in a position to do so to increase their contributions to the Environment Fund;

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of the United Nations Environment Programme, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of the Programme and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to the Programme and to the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-fifth session".

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Agenda item 48

Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the preparation of the 2008 Review Conference

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Martin Hoppe (Germany)

Arrangements and organization of work of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (Doha, 29 November-2 December 2008)

The General Assembly, noting the provisions contained in the note by the Secretary-General on the proposed organization of work of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[1] decides that the arrangements and organization of work of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus will be as set out in the note by the Secretary-General.

[1] A/63/345.

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Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the preparation of the 2008 Review Conference

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Martin Hoppe (Germany)

Provisional rules of procedure for the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (Doha, 29 November-2 December 2008)

The General Assembly, noting the provisions contained in the note by the Secretary-General on the proposed organization of work of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[1] decides to recommend for adoption by the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus the provisional rules of procedure for the Conference, as contained in annex I of the note by the Secretary-General.

[1] A/63/345.

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Draft decision submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Martin Hoppe (Germany)

Provisional agenda for the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (Doha, 29 November-2 December 2008)

The General Assembly, noting the provisions contained in the note by the Secretary-General on the proposed organization of work of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[1] decides to recommend for adoption by the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, the provisional agenda for the Conference, as contained in annex II of the note by the Secretary-General.

[1] A/63/345.

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Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the preparation of the 2008 Review Conference

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Martin Hoppe (Germany)

Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations to the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (Doha, 29 November-2 December 2008)

The General Assembly, referring to the letter dated 31 October 2008 from the President of the sixty-third session of the Assembly to the Chairperson of the Second Committee,[1] decides to accredit the following intergovernmental organizations to the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus:

1. Global Digital Solidarity Fund
2. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
3. UNITAID.

[1] A/C.2/63/5.

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Agenda item 48

Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the preparation of the 2008 Review Conference

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Martin Hoppe (Germany)

Accreditation of non-governmental organizations to the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (Doha, 29 November-2 December 2008)

The General Assembly, referring to the letter dated 31 October 2008 from the President of the sixty-third session of the Assembly to the Chairperson of the Second Committee,[1] decides to accredit the following non-governmental organizations to the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus:

1. Alliance for African Women Initiative, Ghana
2. Asociación Latinoamericana de Organizaciones de Promoción al Desarrollo
3. Association femmes et actions pour le développement
4. Centre d'accompagnement des alternatives locales de développement
5. Centre for Rights and Development
6. Civil Power Africa
7. Dennis-MMEK International Care
8. Development Wheel
9. Equit Institute

[1] A/C.2/63/5.

08-57175 (E) 311008

10. European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development
11. Evangelical Lutheran Mission Leipzig
12. Foundation for Widows and Less Privileged
13. Freedom from Debt Coalition
14. GGS Institute of Information Communication Technology, India
15. Global Call to Action against Poverty, Liberia
16. Global Network for Environment and Economic Development Research
17. Groupe d'action "Qui veut peut"
18. Hope Worldwide, Pakistan
19. IBON Foundation
20. International Foundation for African Children
21. Job Creation Trust
22. Jonction
23. Jubilee South
24. La Colombe
25. LDC Watch
26. Magnificat Environment Association
27. Manav Kalyan Pratisthan
28. Médecins du monde
29. Network for Women's Rights in Ghana
30. Pakistan Community Peace Foundation
31. Polli Dustha Kallyan Shangstha
32. Population Action International
33. Reality of Aid Network
34. Resource Center for Environment and Sustainable Development Organisation
35. Seeds for African Relief Agency
36. Servicios Ecumenicos para Reconciliación y Reconstrucción
37. Slums Information Development and Resource Centres
38. Solidar
39. Stamp Out Poverty
40. TB Alert
41. United Nations Youth Association of Cameroon

42. Unzila Memorial Welfare Organization
43. VENRO
44. Voices for Interactive Choice and Empowerment
45. Women and Memory Forum
46. Youth Partnership for Peace and Development, Sierra Leone.

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Sixty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 49
Sustainable development

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

Oil slick on Lebanese shores

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/194 of 20 December 2006 and 62/188 of 19 December 2007 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

Reaffirming the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference,[1] in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

Emphasizing the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

Taking into account the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2] especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[3]

Noting again with great concern the environmental catastrophe caused by the deliberate destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the el Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, a civilian utility serving the general public, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline and extended to the Syrian coastline,

* On behalf of the Member States of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one, chap. I.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

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Noting again with appreciation the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/188 of 19 December 2007 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores;[4]

2. *Reiterates the expression of its deep concern* about the adverse implications of the deliberate destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese el Jiyeh electric power plant, a civilian utility serving the general public, for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health, in the country;

4. *Requests* the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic for the costs of cleaning up and repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment, and notes with deep concern the non-compliance of the Government of Israel with paragraph 4 of resolution 62/188;

5. *Reaffirms* the necessity to adhere to the full and complete implementation of resolutions 61/194 and 62/188 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of the Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages the Member States and above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean Basin;

7. *Decides* to establish a voluntary trust fund for Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration in order to provide assistance and support to the States directly adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of the environmental catastrophe resulting from the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks at the el Jiyeh electric power plant, and requests the Secretary-General to implement this decision before the end of the sixty-third session;

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[4] A/63/225.

8. *Invites* States, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to make voluntary financial contributions to the trust fund, and in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance in order to ensure that the voluntary trust fund for Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration has sufficient and adequate resources;

9. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

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Agenda item 49
Sustainable development

Antigua and Barbuda:* revised draft resolution

Oil slick on Lebanese shores

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/194 of 20 December 2006 and 62/188 of 19 December 2007 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

Reaffirming the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference,[1] in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

Emphasizing the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

Taking into account the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2] especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[3]

Noting again with great concern the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of El-Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline and extended to the Syrian coastline,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one, chap. I.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

08-61840 (E) 251108

Noting again with appreciation the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/188 of 19 December 2007 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores;[4]

2. *Reiterates the expression of its deep concern* about the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese El-Jiyeh electric power plant for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health, in the country;

4. *Requests* the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of the Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages the Member States and above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean Basin;

6. *Decides* to establish an Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration voluntary trust fund, based on voluntary contributions, in order to provide assistance and support to the States directly adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of this environmental disaster resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at El-Jiyeh electric power plant, and requests the Secretary-General to implement this decision before the end of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly;

7. *Invites* States, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to make voluntary financial contributions to the trust fund, and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance in order to ensure that the Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration voluntary trust fund has sufficient and adequate resources;

[4] A/63/225.

8. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

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Sixty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 53 (a)
Eradication of poverty and other development issues: implementation of the second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/196 of 22 December 1992, 48/183 of 21 December 1993, 50/107 of 20 December 1995, 56/207 of 21 December 2001, 57/265 and 57/266 of 20 December 2002, 58/222 of 23 December 2003, 59/247 of 22 December 2004, 60/209 of 22 December 2005, 61/213 of 20 December 2006 and 62/205 of 19 December 2007,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by Heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit,[1] and their commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2]

Recalling its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Recalling also its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

08-57981 (E) 311008

Recalling further the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development[3] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,[4]

Concerned by the global nature of poverty and inequality, and underlining that the eradication of poverty and hunger is an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of humankind,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty is one of the greatest global challenges facing the world today, particularly in Africa, and underlining the importance of accelerating sustainable broad-based economic growth, including employment generation and decent work,

Expressing concern that poverty is more widespread than previously estimated and that it will increase owing to the global crises in finance, food and energy and jeopardize the achievement of the internationally agreed developing goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Also expressing concern that the number of people living in poverty in the world is now significantly higher than previously estimated and that this situation may deteriorate further and, inter alia, jeopardize the development gains made by developing countries and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, owing to the interrelated and mutually reinforcing financial, food and energy crises, as well as climate change, and in this regard emphasizing the need to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda while stressing the importance of addressing the causes and challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies,

Recognizing that mobilizing financial resources for development at the national and international levels and the effective use of those resources are central to a global partnership for development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing also the contributions of South-South cooperation to the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty and to pursue sustainable development,

Acknowledging that sustained economic growth, supported by rising productivity and a favourable environment, including public and private investment and entrepreneurship, is necessary to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and realize a rise in living standards,

Underlining the priority and urgency given by the Heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017);[5]

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[3] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[4] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[5] A/63/190.

2. *Reaffirms* that the objective of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) is to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the follow-up to the implementation of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, related to the eradication of poverty and to coordinate international support to that end;

3. *Decides* that the overall action theme for the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) shall be "Renewing commitment to eradicate poverty: the need for greater international cooperation and solidarity";

4. *Also decides* to have a sub-theme or cluster of themes biennially, aimed at focusing the Second Decade on specific activities for poverty eradication, and in this regard decides to adopt "Full employment and decent work for all" as the theme for the biennium 2009-2010;

5. *Reaffirms* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizes that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty;

6. *Stresses* the importance of addressing the causes and challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies;

7. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development, critical for the eradication of poverty;

8. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring, at the intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, coherent, comprehensive and integrated activities for the eradication of poverty in accordance with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

9. *Emphasizes* the critical role of both formal and non-formal education, in particular basic education and training, especially for girls, in empowering those living in poverty, reaffirms in that context the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[6] and recognizes the importance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization strategy for the eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, in supporting the Education for All programmes as tools to achieve the Millennium Development Goal on universal primary education by 2015;

10. *Calls upon* donor countries to continue to give priority to the eradication of poverty in their assistance programmes and budgets, on either a bilateral or a multilateral basis;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to move expeditiously to put in place new instruments and to expand and strengthen existing instruments to support developing countries in order to prevent, and deal with the existing, crises,

[6] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal*, 26-28 April 2000 (Paris, 2000).

including the food crisis, and urges that this stepped-up assistance should be additional to official development assistance;

12. *Recognizes* that sustained economic growth is essential for eradicating poverty and hunger, in particular in developing countries, and stresses that national efforts in this regard should be complemented by an enabling international environment;

13. *Also recognizes* that, for developing countries to reach the targets set in the context of national development strategies for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in particular the goal on the eradication of poverty, and for such poverty eradication strategies to be effective, it is imperative that developing countries be integrated into the world economy and share equitably in the benefits of globalization;

14. *Calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of developing countries to implement the goals of the Second Decade through adequate, predictable financial resources and technology transfer;

15. *Expresses deep concern* at the declining trend in the level of official development assistance since 2006, notes that if current trends persist, it will seriously hamper the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty, and in this regard, reiterates the significance of increased financing for development, including the need to meet the long-standing target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.2 per cent of gross national product to the least developed countries by 2010;

16. *Calls upon* the agencies of the United Nations system to mainstream poverty eradication into their activities and to report annually on the actions taken in support of the overall theme of the Second Decade, and requests the Secretary-General to appoint a focal point for inter-agency coordination in this regard;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including a detailed plan of action on the implementation of the goals of the Second Decade, in close consultation with Member States;

18. *Recognizes* the need to give its highest priority to the consideration of the item on poverty eradication on its agenda, and in that regard, as a contribution to the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017), decides to convene a high-level meeting of the General Assembly, with the participation of Heads of State and Government, devoted to the issue of poverty eradication, during its sixty-fifth session;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session an item entitled "Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)".

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Second Committee
Agenda item 50
Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 34/115 of 14 December 1979, 56/205 and 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 57/275 of 20 December 2002, 58/226 and 58/227 of 23 December 2003, 59/239 of 22 December 2004, 60/203 of 22 December 2005, 61/206 of 20 December 2006 and 62/198 of 19 December 2007,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/38 of 26 July 2002 and 2003/62 of 25 July 2003 and Council decisions 2004/300 of 23 July 2004, 2005/298 of 26 July 2005, 2006/247 of 27 July 2006, 2007/249 of 26 July 2007 and 2008/239 of 23 July 2008,

Recalling the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[1] of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020 and the goal contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[2] to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

08-58631 (E) 051108

Recalling also the Habitat Agenda,[3] the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[4] the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[5]

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[6] which calls upon the States Members of the United Nations to achieve significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020, recognizing the urgent need for the provision of increased resources for affordable housing and housing-related infrastructure, prioritizing slum prevention and slum upgrading, and to encourage support for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and its Slum Upgrading Facility,

Recognizing the negative impact of environmental degradation, including climate change, desertification and loss of biodiversity, on human settlements,

Recognizing also that the current financial crisis is likely to have serious implications for sustained economic growth and the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, and concerned about the impact of the sub-prime mortgage crisis in developed countries, the contagion it has unleashed throughout the global financial markets and the resultant adverse social and economic effects particularly for developing countries and low-income people in developed countries,

Recognizing also the importance of housing finance in national wealth and the need for public intervention in response to the current turmoil in the financial system,

Noting the important contribution of UN-Habitat, within its mandate, to more cost-effective transitions between emergency relief, recovery and reconstruction, and welcoming the decision to admit UN-Habitat to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee,

Recognizing the significance of the urban dimension of poverty eradication and the need to integrate water and sanitation and other issues within a comprehensive framework for sustainable development,

Recognizing also the importance of decentralization policies for achieving sustainable human settlements development in line with the Habitat Agenda and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting with satisfaction the progress of UN-Habitat in implementing the kick-start phase of its medium-term strategic and institutional plan for 2008-2013, including its strategic and institutional components,

Commending the efforts of UN-Habitat, as a non-resident agency and through its national Habitat programme managers, in helping programme countries to mainstream the Habitat Agenda in their development frameworks,

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[3] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[4] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

[5] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[6] See resolution 60/1.

Expressing its appreciation to the Government of China and the city of Nanjing for hosting the fourth session of the World Urban Forum from 3 to 6 November 2008 and to the Government of Brazil for its offer to host the fifth session of the World Urban Forum, in 2010,

Noting the efforts of UN-Habitat in strengthening its collaboration with the World Bank, the regional development banks and domestic financial institutions, ensuring that its policy advisory and capacity-building activities leverage investment finance to improve water and sanitation as an entry point to the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing the need for UN-Habitat to sharpen its focus on all areas within its mandate,

Recognizing also the continued need for increased and predictable financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation to ensure timely, effective and concrete global implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, the experimental reimbursable seeding operations trust fund of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Declaration and Plan of Implementation,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda[7] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat);[8]

2. *Welcomes* the efforts of UN-Habitat in the implementation of its medium-term strategic and institutional plan for the period 2008-2013, and encourages Governments in a position to do so and other stakeholders to contribute generously to ongoing efforts in institutional reform and the pursuit of management excellence;

3. *Calls upon* donor countries to support developing countries to strengthen the role and contribution of their respective local authorities in applying the principles and practices of sustainable urbanization in order to improve the living conditions of vulnerable urban populations, including slum-dwellers and the urban poor;

4. *Calls for* enhanced financial support to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary contributions, and invites Governments in a position to do so and other stakeholders to provide predictable multi-year funding and increased non-earmarked contributions to support the institutional objectives of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan and its global campaign on sustainable urbanization;

5. *Invites* the international donor community and financial institutions to contribute generously to the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund, the Slum Upgrading Facility, the technical cooperation trust funds and the experimental reimbursable seeding operations trust fund of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements

[7] E/2008/64.
[8] A/63/291.

Foundation to enable UN-Habitat to assist developing countries in mobilizing public investment and private capital for slum upgrading, shelter and basic services, recognizes that the current financial crisis carries the potential of adversely impacting the financial flows to such arrangements, and emphasizes that special efforts should be undertaken to protect those arrangements from a potential credit squeeze;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat under review so as to enhance its effectiveness in supporting national policies, strategies and plans in attaining the human settlements related goals and targets of the Millennium Declaration, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[2] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome;[6]

7. *Calls upon* UN-Habitat to strengthen efforts to coordinate and implement its normative and operational activities through the enhanced normative and operational framework elaborated in the medium-term strategic and institutional plan, reinforcing its normative activities, and invites all countries in a position to do so to support the activities of UN-Habitat in this regard;

8. *Emphasizes* the need for UN-Habitat to enhance cooperation with regional and subregional organizations in strengthening the strategic presence of the programmes in the regions and in contributing to sustainable development programmes;

9. *Requests* UN-Habitat, within the framework of its experimental reimbursable seeding operations for housing finance, and in close collaboration with international and regional financial institutions, to document and disseminate lessons learned, fully taking into account the recent housing finance crisis;

10. *Decides* to hold a special meeting of the General Assembly in 2009, within existing resources, for an overall review of the role of Government in housing finance systems, within the framework and full respect for the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements[9] and the Habitat Agenda;[3]

11. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen or establish, as appropriate, broad-based national Habitat committees with a view to mainstreaming sustainable urbanization and urban poverty reduction in their respective national development strategies;

12. *Reiterates its call* to the Economic and Social Council to include sustainable urbanization, urban poverty reduction and slum upgrading as a standing item of its agenda and a cross-cutting issue in the follow-up to the outcomes of summits and major international conferences;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to UN-Habitat and the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi;

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[9] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".

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Sixty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 49 (a)
Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 of 20 December 2002 and 57/270 A and B of 20 December 2002 and 23 June 2003, respectively, and its resolutions 58/218 of 23 December 2003, 59/227 of 22 December 2004, 60/193 of 22 December 2005, 61/195 of 20 December 2006 and 62/189 of 19 December 2007,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6]

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

08-58637 (E) 051108

Reaffirming the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[7]

Reaffirming the decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,[8]

Reiterating that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, and reaffirming the continuing need to ensure a balance among economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

Noting that challenges in achieving the goals of the three pillars of sustainable development are further exacerbated by the current global crises,

Deeply concerned that although some progress has been achieved since the landmark Conference of 1972, the Earth Summit in 1992 and the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002, there is a persistent implementation gap, and many commitments by the international community have not been fully met,

Bearing in mind the need for a World Summit to renew political commitments at the highest level and for an overall review of the implementation of Agenda 21 and of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

Welcoming the offer by the Government of Brazil to host a world summit on this matter in 2012,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

Recognizing that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[9]

Recalling that the Economic and Social Council should increase its role in overseeing system-wide coordination and the balanced integration of economic, social and environmental aspects of United Nations policies and programmes aimed at promoting sustainable development, and reaffirming that the Commission on

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[7] See resolution 60/1.

[8] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I.

[9] See resolution 55/2.

Sustainable Development should continue to be the high-level commission on sustainable development within the United Nations system and serve as a forum for consideration of issues related to integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,

Recalling also that agriculture, rural development, land, drought and desertification are interlinked and should be addressed in an integrated manner, taking into account economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, related sectoral policies and cross-cutting issues including means of implementation, as identified at the eleventh session of the Commission,

Recognizing the problems and constraints that African countries are facing in the areas of agriculture, rural development, land, drought and desertification, and emphasizing that those problems and constraints should be adequately addressed during the seventeenth session of the Commission, which will be a policy session,

Recalling the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session,[10] endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2003/61 of 25 July 2003, that the Commission, at its policy sessions, to be held in April/May of the second year of the cycle, would take policy decisions on practical measures and options to expedite implementation in the selected thematic cluster of issues, taking account of the discussions of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting, the reports of the Secretary-General and other relevant inputs,

Recalling also the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session[11] that the discussions of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting would be based on the outcome of the review session and reports of the Secretary-General, as well as other relevant inputs, and that, on the basis of those discussions, the Chair would prepare a draft negotiating document for consideration at the policy session,

Recognizing the importance of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting to discuss policy options and possible actions to address the constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation identified during the review year,

Noting with satisfaction that the Commission at its sixteenth session undertook an in-depth evaluation of progress in implementing Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, focusing on the thematic cluster of issues on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa and identified best practices, constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation,[12]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[13]

2. *Reiterates* that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and those contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation");[5]

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[10] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 2 (h).

[11] Ibid., para. 2 (g).

[12] Ibid., *2008, Supplement No. 9* (E/2008/29), chap II.

[13] A/63/304.

3. *Calls upon* Governments, all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as major groups, to take action to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and encourages them to report on concrete progress in that regard;

4. *Calls for* the effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and for the fulfilment of the provisions relating to the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

5. *Recognizes* the need for a World Summit in 2012 for the overall review and appraisal of the progress achieved in, and to identify further measures for enhancing, the implementation of Agenda 21[2] and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

6. *Decides* that the review should focus on the identification of the accomplishments and areas where further efforts are needed to implement Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, as well as on action-oriented decisions on new challenges and opportunities in order to secure renewed political commitment and support for sustainable development while ensuring consistency consistent with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities;

7. *Accepts* the offer of the Government of Brazil to host the conference in 2012;

8. *Decides* that the preparatory process and the modalities of negotiations will be decided by a specific resolution to be presented to the General Assembly by no later than its sixty-fourth session, and that this preparatory process should take adequately into account the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, particularly as established in its multi-year work programme, with a view to avoiding duplication of work;

9. *Reiterates* that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as a forum for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of a consensus outcome and action-oriented policy sessions;

11. *Encourages* Governments to participate at the appropriate level with representatives, including ministers, from the relevant departments and organizations working in the area of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa, as well as finance, in the seventeenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting;

12. *Recalls* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that activities during Commission meetings should provide for the balanced involvement of participants from all regions, as well as for gender balance;[14]

13. *Invites* donor countries to consider supporting the participation of representatives from the developing countries in the seventeenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting and in this regard, to contribute to the Commission's trust fund;

14. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21, including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, in particular for developing countries;

15. *Calls upon* donor Governments and international financial institutions to target funding support to developing countries in support of their efforts to overcome barriers and constraints identified during the review year in the thematic cluster of issues of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa;

16. *Reaffirms* the objective of enhancing the participation and effective involvement of civil society and other relevant stakeholders, as well as promoting transparency and broad public participation, in the implementation of Agenda 21;

17. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to coordinate the participation of the relevant major groups in the thematic discussions at the seventeenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting and the reporting on the fulfilment of corporate accountability and responsibility with respect to the thematic cluster of issues, in accordance with the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

18. *Reaffirms* the need to promote the development of microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, including by means of training, education and skill enhancement, with a special focus on agro-industry as a provider of livelihoods for rural communities;

19. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to make arrangements to facilitate the balanced representation of major groups from developed and developing countries in the sessions of the Commission and in this regard invites donor countries to consider supporting the participation of major groups from developing countries, through the Commission's trust fund;

20. *Invites* the relevant specialized agencies, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations funds and programmes, the Global Environment Facility and international and regional financial and trade institutions, as well as the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[15] and other relevant bodies, to actively participate, within their mandates, in the work of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting at its seventeenth session;

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[14] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 2 (j).

[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

21. *Encourages* Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, to undertake results-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission and to promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the Commission at its seventeenth session, on the basis of appropriate inputs from all levels, to submit thematic reports on each of the six issues contained in the thematic cluster of issues on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa, taking into account their interlinkages, while addressing the cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation identified by the Commission at its eleventh session, and also takes into account the relevant provisions of paragraphs 10, 14 and 15 of draft resolution I of the eleventh session of the Commission;[16]

23. *Underlines* the importance of setting aside adequate time for all envisaged activities in the policy session, including for negotiations on policy options and possible actions, at the seventeenth session of the Commission, and in this regard notes the importance of having all required documents, including the Chair's draft negotiating document, made available for consideration prior to the beginning of the session;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development", and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[16] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 2 (f).

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Second Committee
Agenda item 49 (c)
Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/219 of 22 December 1999, 56/195 of 21 December 2001, 57/256 of 20 December 2002, 58/214 of 23 December 2003, 59/231 of 22 December 2004, 60/195 of 22 December 2005, 61/198 of 20 December 2006 and 62/192 of 19 December 2007 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2001/35 of 26 July 2001, and taking into due consideration its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1]

Reaffirming the Hyogo Declaration,[2] the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters[3] and the common statement of the special session on the Indian Ocean disaster: risk reduction for a safer future,[4] as adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction,

Reaffirming also its role in providing policy guidance on the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

* On behalf of the Member States of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution 60/1.

[2] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

[3] Ibid., resolution 2.

[4] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, annex II.

08-58643 (E) 051108

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact within recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world and hamper the achievement of their sustainable development, in particular in developing countries,

Emphasizing that disaster risk reduction, including reducing vulnerability to natural disasters, is an important cross-cutting element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,

Recognizing the clear relationship between development, disaster risk reduction, disaster response and disaster recovery and the need to continue to deploy efforts in all these areas,

Recognizing also the urgent need to further develop and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to build resilience to natural disasters, and emphasizing the need for developing countries to have access to appropriate, advanced, environmentally sound, cost-effective and easy-to-use technologies so as to seek more comprehensive solutions to disaster risk reduction and to effectively and efficiently strengthen their capabilities to cope with disaster risks,

Recognizing further that certain measures for disaster risk reduction in the context of the Hyogo Framework for Action can also support adaptation to climate change, and emphasizing the importance of strengthening the resilience of nations and communities to natural disasters through disaster risk-reduction programmes,

Stressing the importance of advancing the implementation of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development[5] and its relevant provisions on vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster management,

Taking note of the ministerial meeting held on 29 September 2008, convened by the Secretary-General, on "Reducing disaster risks in a changing climate",

Noting the declaration "Together for Humanity" of the thirtieth International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held in Geneva from 26 to 30 November 2007, in particular concerning the need to ensure that environmental degradation and adaptation to climate change are integrated in disaster-risk reduction and disaster-management policies and plans,

Recognizing the need to continue to develop an understanding of, and to address, socio-economic activities that exacerbate the vulnerability of societies to natural disasters and to build and further strengthen community capability to cope with disaster risks,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;[6]

2. *Recalls* that the commitments of the Hyogo Declaration[7] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters[7] include the provision of assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and disaster-stricken States in the

[5] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[6] A/63/351.

transition phase towards sustainable physical, social and economic recovery, for risk-reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes;

3. *Welcomes* the progress made in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stresses the need for a more effective integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies, planning and programming; for the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience to hazards; and for a systematic incorporation of risk-reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes;

4. *Calls upon* the international community to increase its efforts to fully implement the commitments of the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action;

5. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations system, international financial institutions, regional bodies and other international organizations, including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and volunteers, the private sector and the scientific community, to increase efforts to support, cooperate and coordinate activities to implement and follow up the Hyogo Framework for Action;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, and invites international financial institutions and regional and international organizations, to integrate the goals of and take into full account the Hyogo Framework for Action in their strategies and programmes, making use of existing coordination mechanisms, and to assist developing countries with those mechanisms to design and implement, as appropriate, disaster risk-reduction measures with a sense of urgency;

7. *Also calls upon* the United Nations system, and invites the international financial institutions and regional banks and other regional and international organizations, to support, in a timely and sustained manner, the efforts led by disaster-stricken countries for disaster risk reduction in post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes;

8. *Recognizes* that each State has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and for taking effective measures to reduce disaster risk, including for the protection of people on its territory, infrastructure and other national assets from the impact of disasters, including the implementation of and follow-up to the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stresses the importance of international cooperation and partnerships to support those national efforts;

9. *Also recognizes* the efforts made by Member States to develop national and local capacities to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action, including through the establishment of national platforms for disaster reduction, and encourages Member States that have not done so to develop such capacities;

10. *Further recognizes* the importance of coordinating adaptation to climate change with relevant natural disaster risk-reduction measures, invites Governments and relevant international organizations to integrate these considerations in a comprehensive manner into, inter alia, development plans and poverty eradication programmes, and invites the international community to support the ongoing efforts of developing countries in this regard;

11. *Welcomes* the regional and subregional initiatives developed in order to achieve disaster risk reduction, and reiterates the need to further develop regional initiatives and risk-reduction capacities of regional mechanisms where they exist and to strengthen them and encourage the use and sharing of all existing tools;

12. *Stresses* its satisfaction with the work carried out by the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, a partnership of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction system managed by the World Bank on behalf of the participating donor partners and other partnering stakeholders, as a significant initiative to support the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action;

13. *Calls upon* the international community to support the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards;

14. *Encourages* Member States to increase their commitment to the effective implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, making full use of the Strategy system's mechanisms, such as the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction;

15. *Welcomes* the upcoming second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Geneva from 16 to 19 June 2009, which will serve to initiate the midterm review of the implementation of the Hyogo Framework, expected by 2010, and requests the Secretary-General to include information on the Global Platform, for consideration by the General Assembly, in his next report;

16. *Recognizes* the importance of integrating a gender perspective and empowering and engaging women in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster management, as well as in risk reduction strategies and programmes;

17. *Expresses its appreciation* to those countries that have provided financial support for the activities of the Strategy by making voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction;

18. *Encourages* the international community to continue providing adequate voluntary financial contributions to the Trust Fund in the effort to ensure adequate support for the follow-up activities to the Hyogo Framework for Action;

19. *Encourages* Governments, multilateral organizations, international and regional organizations, international and regional financial institutions, the private sector and civil society to systematically invest in disaster risk reduction with a view to implementing the objectives of the Strategy;

20. *Stresses* the importance of disaster risk reduction and subsequent increased responsibilities of the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and requests the Secretary-General to provide from the regular budget, starting in the biennium 2010-2011, the necessary support to ensure predictable and stable financial resources for the operation of the secretariat;

21. *Encourages* Member States to integrate early warning systems into their national disaster risk-reduction strategies and plans, and invites the international community to support the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction in its role in facilitating the development of early warning systems;

22. *Stresses* the need to foster better understanding and knowledge of the causes of disasters, as well as to build and strengthen coping capacities through, inter alia, the transfer and exchange of experiences and technical knowledge, educational and training programmes for natural disaster risk reduction, access to relevant data and information and the strengthening of institutional arrangements, including community-based organizations;

23. *Emphasizes* the need for the international community to maintain its focus beyond emergency relief and to support medium- and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk reduction, and stresses the importance of implementing programmes related to the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and disaster risk-reduction management in the most vulnerable regions, particularly in developing countries prone to natural disasters;

24. *Stresses* the need to address risk reduction of and vulnerabilities to all natural hazards, including geological and hydrometeorological hazards, in a comprehensive manner;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

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Agenda item 51 (a)
Globalization and interdependence: role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/169 of 15 December 1998, 54/231 of 22 December 1999, 55/212 of 20 December 2000, 56/209 of 21 December 2001, 57/274 of 20 December 2002, 58/225 of 23 December 2003, 59/240 of 22 December 2004, 60/204 of 22 December 2005, 61/207 of 20 December 2006 and 62/199 of 19 December 2007 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome[1] and all relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular those that have built upon the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in the economic, social and related fields, including Assembly resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a central role in promoting international cooperation for development and in promoting policy coherence on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Reaffirming also the resolve expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[2] to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people,

* On behalf of the Member States of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution 60/1.

[2] See resolution 55/2.

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Recognizing that globalization, driven largely by economic liberalization and technology, implies that the economic performance of a country is increasingly affected by factors outside its geographical borders and that maximizing in an equitable manner the benefits of globalization requires developing responses to globalization through a strengthened global partnership for development to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Expressing deep concern at the current financial and economic crises, as a direct consequence of unchecked neoliberal financial deregulation and the lack of regulatory oversight, and food and energy crises and their negative impact on the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, particularly for developing countries,

Recognizing that domestic economies are now intertwined with the global economy and that globalization affects all countries in different ways, and that countries on the one hand have trade and investment opportunities to, inter alia, fight poverty, while on the other face constraints in the degree of flexibility they have in pursuing their national development strategies,

Reaffirming its strong support for fair and inclusive globalization and the need to translate growth into reduction of poverty and, in this regard, its resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and young people, a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting that particular attention must be given, in the context of globalization, to the objective of protecting, promoting and enhancing the rights and welfare of women and girls, as stated in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[3]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Expresses concern* that the most recent poverty estimates reveal that poverty is more widespread than previously estimated;

3. *Recognizes with serious concern* the negative impacts of the current financial and economic crises, particularly on developing countries, in view of their limited capacity to facilitate export and secure access to credit as well as pursue effective counter-cyclical macroeconomic policies, and on the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

4. *Recognizes* that the present financial crisis and the response measures adopted by the Governments of the affected countries have underlined the important role of the public sector in guaranteeing a safe and stable economic environment;

5. *Also recognizes* that greater consistency is required among the macroeconomic, trade, aid, financial, environmental and gender-equality policies to support the common aim of making globalization work for all;

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[3] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publications, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[4] A/63/333.

6. *Stresses* the need for better mechanisms and institutions to address systemic weaknesses and enhance the coherence, complementarity and coordination of inclusive and transparent global economic policymaking;

7. *Underlines* the fact that economies exist in a globalizing world where the emergence of rule-based regimes for international economic relations has meant that the space for national economic policy, that is, to say the scope for domestic policies, especially in the areas of trade, investment and industrial development is now often framed by international disciplines, commitments and global market considerations, that it is for each Government to evaluate the trade-off between the benefits of accepting international rules and commitments and the constraints posed by the loss of policy space, and that it is particularly important for developing countries, bearing in mind development goals and objectives, that efforts to implement and navigate the need for appropriate balance between national policy space and international disciplines and commitments, and in this regard, take into consideration the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the concept of policy space, as articulated in the São Paulo Consensus[a] and the World Summit outcome;

8. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote and maximize the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, stresses in this regard the importance of seeking urgent efforts to reform the international financial architecture, including enhancing the voice and participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the Bretton Woods institutions, reiterates its continuing concern, and calls in this regard for further and effective progress;

9. *Stresses* the need for increased support for agriculture in developing countries, particularly in developing countries, so as to [...] rural areas, food security, farmers' livelihoods and rural development;

10. *Recognizes* that growth strategies and macro-economic policies need to promote decent employment objectives in order to achieve reductions in poverty, and that these policies must take into account the gender dimension of women's employment;

11. *Encourages* all development partners to help strengthen and support national health and education policies and plans of developing countries through providing assistance and funding in accordance with their development needs and priorities;

12. *Notes* that the role of Governments is critical in establishing institutions capable of providing high-quality primary, secondary and tertiary education, including developing a clear vision for the long-term development of a comprehensive, diversified and well-articulated tertiary education system;

13. *Recognizes* that efficient and equitable health systems are needed to effectively implement the disease prevention, care and control programmes required to meet the specific health goals of reducing child and maternal mortality and reducing the spread of diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria;

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[a] TD/412, part II.

14. *Notes* that efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals should further include intensified control of neglected tropical diseases;

15. *Recognizes* the need for policies and measures to promote sustainable production and consumption patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead;

16. *Stresses* the need for strengthening technology transfer commitments and providing more favourable terms for technology transfer under multilateral trading agreements and for taking concrete actions to facilitate technology transfer to developing countries in support of the implementation of their sustainable development strategies;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on globalization and interdependence on the theme "Globalization and development: the role of the United Nations and international financial institutions in the context of the current financial and economic crisis", under the agenda item entitled "Globalization and interdependence";

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence".